

DD/A Registry

File 04M-2

15 May 1974

NOTE FOR: Mr. Brownman via Mr. ~~Blake~~ JFB

SUBJECT : Agency Research Council

1. Reference is made to Mr. Blake's request for information concerning the "Agency Research Council." The following developments were gathered on the basis of inquiries directed to the DD/M&S Registry unit, Regulations Control Staff, [] in DD/S&T and [] in OTR.

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1965

Bud Wheelon established the Agency Research Council in the fall of 1965, and there were a few meetings, but it quickly fell into disuse. Per [] the Council focused on evaluation from a technical standpoint, with heavy interest in promising breakthroughs.

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Late 60's

There was a Research and Development Board under the chairmanship of Carl Duckett, with [] handling a lot of the working level details. It worked pretty well for three or four years, with representatives from all elements of the Agency which were spending money on R&D matters. They developed a pretty good description of every project in the R&D area, and the Board worked very closely with PPB. Some problems developed in that there was considerable emphasis on five-year plans; some of the Deputy Directors did not back up their representatives on the Board; and there was more focus on "planning" than "research." It was a combination of technical feasibility and program planning.

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Early 70's

When Don Steininger came with the Agency, he became chairman of an R&D Board, with representation from all of the Directorates. In most cases, the "Assistant Deputy Director" attended these meetings, and Bob Wattles represented the DD/M&S. As of early 1973, all research and development was placed under the DD/S&T, and this eliminated any need for the R&D Board.

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Present

Per [] R&D matters are centered in OD&E, where all planning is basically handled by Les Dirks. At this point, Les is the "expert" and it is his responsibility.

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2. Attached herewith are copies of various documents from the past which provide background information on the overall problem. It would appear that MCA-92 has a major impact on DD/S&T, and rather limited effect on DD/M&S. I gather from informal conversation with [redacted] that DD/S&T has found some errors in the MAG paper. If you wish, we could ask [redacted] for "comments" because of his background, but Mr. Brownman probably fully understands this problem.

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LJD

Atts, including MCA-92